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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Takehiko SHIGEFUJI et al.                      Group Art Unit: 3724  
Appl. No : 09/680,293    Examiner: J.D. Prone  
Filed : October 6, 2000    Confirmation No.: 1800

For : PUNCHING TOOL PROVIDED WITH TOOL IDENTIFICATION MEDIUM  
AND PUNCH PRESS PROVIDED WITH A TOOL IDENTIFICATION  
MEDIUM READER

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION UNDER *EX PARTE QUAYLE***

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop Amendment  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of June 25, 2007, in which a two month shortened statutory period for response was set to expire on August 27, 2007 (August 25, 2007 falling on a Saturday), the period for response having been extended to expire on September 25, 2007 by the concurrent submission of a Request for one-month Extension of Time, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding objections, and an indication of the allowability of all the claims pending in the present application in view of the following amendments and remarks, and the concurrently-submitted executed Declaration and Replacement Figures.

**A new Executed Declaration** is submitted herewith.

**Replacement Figures** are submitted herewith and described beginning at page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 3 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 6 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 9 of this paper.